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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/30/2007

SPONSOR Silva LAST UPDATED HB 250

SHORT TITLE Legislative Approval For Highway Restrictions SB

ANALYST Moser

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
NFI	NFI		

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDT)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 250 amends NMSA 1978 Comp., Section 67-3-12 which specifies the powers and duties of the State Transportation Commission by specifying that the power to “designate, dedicate or memorialize a public highway or structure by name” shall be subject to the approval of the Legislature. HB 250 defines structure to mean “bridge, interchange, transportation facility or building owned or controlled by the department.”

Although the Legislature has delegated under existing law, at Section 67-3- 26 and 67-3-40, to the Commission and Secretary full supervisory control over the state highway system and other transportation facilities, HB 250 conditions the naming of public highways and structures by requiring Legislative approval. It appears that the requirement for Legislative approval only applies to naming of highways and structures, and not to the typical designation a highway as state highway by number.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

This bill changes the current practice and NMDOT policy by which the State Transportation Commission names public highways and structures. Pursuant to its policy the commission requires substantial assessment before conducting such naming activities.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The NMDOT indicates that the State Transportation Commission meets eleven times a year and is able to take action to dedicate highways and structures in a more timely and efficient manner. Legislative approval will unduly delay these important events.

GM/nt